

seniority. So my concern is that contamination can take place on lower flows. And Senator Schrock and I are both concerned about that. Senator Schrock is just coming at it from a different perspective than I. He is confident that we will, if we keep our reservoir up at Kingsley, that we will be able to...and that has, indeed, helped maintain flows, and my concern was that possibly the feds will do something that, such as adopting language that would allow them the settlement or the resolution of this problem to not consider any of these future legislative ideas that we will address next year and the year beyond. So if you read...it would be good for you, if you are not up on water issues, or just want to get started on it, read this because there is definitely an effect, a buffer effect on good instream flows and well fields. The Grand Island example is a well field north of town, I believe, where the well field could be affected by an aquifer north of town if the hydraulic pressure is lessened by reduced instream flows, thus allowing the nitrate contaminated water to flow towards Grand Island, towards the river, and possibly contaminate the drinking supply. The same thing could happen in North Platte. We are just not sure how that would work. The way I understand it, North Platte's contamination is at a certain depth but their drinking water is drawn from...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR MORRISSEY: ...a depth far below that. If we don't maintain instream flows there, and I am not familiar with the distance of the wells to the Platte, but if you don't maintain instream flows there, your water table could lower and thus that contaminated water could filter down to where their drinking water is drawn from. So it is one of the many problems that we need to address in the future with our water laws in this state, and I wish we could have come with a bill on this issue as opposed to a resolution, and I hope we all start studying on this issue. I know I have to bone up on it quite a bit because we will be discussing it from now into the future forever, I would imagine. And, with that, I will just say I am going to vote against LR 27 and I hope you all will start becoming very familiar with water issues. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I will try and be fairly brief this morning. Senator Morrissey